AWARENESS AND USAGE OF WEB TECHNOLOGIES AMONG LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS IN KARNATAKA AND ANDHRA PRADESH: A STUDY

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SYNOPSIS

INTRODUCTION

Information generation and its identification is the prime concern in the present knowledge society as the technology enabled environment poses great opportunities and equally the challenges. Both national and international governments have been investing millions and billions of dollars towards developing research in all specific domains to establish acknowledge base that finds solution on emerging issues and find new avenues for the human beings and other living organisms including the sustainability of nature due to ever developing human centric activities of the globe. It is relevant and immense for academics and researchers to adopt newer technologies to access abundant information which is being generated, communicated and disseminated in every fraction of the seconds over the distributed networked environment that facilities the access to knowledge at anywhere, anytime, by any device and any one. It warrants information fluency to meet out the challenge of identifying accessing, using and grasping the information with multiple products and through multiple channels.

Web technologies are one such solution which gains momentum among the stakeholders in generation, access, use and sharing of information for range of purposes towards achieving the desires of day to day life of the human since from the invention of second version of web and interest technologies which made the web as the culture rather than a mere media or technology. Particularly, the higher education and research industry are embraced the web and internet towards achieving significant growth and extending enhancing the reach in a more customized manner that bridge the gap between the countries and communities. It is evident that many of the development nations including India have launched an exclusive satellite towards tapping the potentiality of web technologies by familiarzing it use among all sects of people and thus enhanced the status of socio economic and living conditions across the world.

WEB TECHNOLOGIES

Web technology is a comprehensive and new technology which means interpretation of a range of technologies and applications that enable designing, scripting and uploading, sharing and accessing, an objects, idea, information or set of information in structured formats with uniformity and interoperability. Even though, the significance of the XAMPP in information organization and dissemination in computer organized environment has been remaining in practice since from the first version of internet and web, the enhanced application of this technology which gave a base for developing a lot of applications that can be used not only in the web based, ICT enabled products and services, but also, in mobile based applications. In deed

the term start up significantly gaining momentum only after the Tim O' Reilly (2005) and his team contribution of web 2.0 applications in the year 2004. It has become the base for all the present web technology which are used for various scientific communications, information technology, and entertainment industries by the internet service providers. Also, he mentioned the main difference between the web 1.0 and 2.0 is given below.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Technology has always dominated in library and information management like other advanced scientific subject domains. Libraries and information centers always embrace any newer technology, particularly to extend the services to the end user community in a more precise and timely manner. It may be of automation, mechanization, barcoding, CD-ROM technology or RFID technology, the library and information centers are the fore-runners in adapting these technologies. As like earlier developments intranet, internet and online communication technology have made a great impact on information generation, sharing, access and dissemination, which is very much warranted the library and information centers to elope with business, industrial, research and higher academic organizations to adapt these new technologies for enhanced digital presence and information environment.

In this context, the present problem aimed at studying the library professionals on familiarity and use of web technologies. Hence, the research problem is chosen and formulated as **"Awareness and Usage of Web Technologies among Library Professionals in Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh: A Study".**

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

There is a buzz around web technology in all the industry, and education sector is no exception to that. In education sector, library professionals play a key role to give information services to their users. To provide information services, library professionals are using various methods and technologies, of them, web technology is the important technology. However, there is a no concrete data available about web technologies, their awareness and usage among library professionals in Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh. Keeping this point in mind, this study aims at finding the awareness and usage of web technologies by the library professionals especially of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The preset research has tried to analyze the facets of internet technologies in general, and open access technologies, which are very much relevant for information management in particular. This study covers a range of web technologies such as blogs, content management system, digital library, E-Learning

management system, federated search, instant messaging, photo sharing, reference management system RSS, social marking, social networking sites, video sharing, web conferencing software, wiki's and so on. It is an assessment study, which identify and describe the attitude, the awareness, the capabilities and use of web technologies by the library professionals of different categories working in public, academic, corporate and research library environment. The geographical coverage of the study limits to the states of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.

OBJECTIVES

The study aims to investigate the level of awareness and usage of web technologies among library professionals in Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.

- To know the extent of awareness and usage of web technologies among library professionals of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- To understand the more popular web application among various web technologies used by library professionals of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- To understand the web application tools that are more familiar among each category of web technologies used by library professionals of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- To understand time duration spent on web technologies by the surveyed end users.
- To find out how library professionals are enriching their knowledge about web technologies.
- To find out the kind of support or response librarians get from administrators to implement web technologies.
- To find out the purpose of using the web technologies among surveyed respondents.
- To find out the experience of library users in terms of using web technology for accessing scholarly information.
- To find out what are all the services that library professionals could offer to users in future by using web technologies.
- To find out the problems involved in the usage of web technologies.
- To offer suggestions on how to increase the awareness and use of web technologies as the outcome of the study.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

In view of the context, relevance and reporting of the objectives set for present study, the following hypotheses have been derived to test for more objective results by using standard statistical techniques.

- There is no difference between surveyed respondents in terms of the extent of period of awareness over web technologies as to their professional experience.

- There is no difference between surveyed respondents in terms of the extent of period of awareness over web technologies based on their designation in the library.

- There exists no difference among surveyed respondents in terms of years of experience towards use of web technologies.

- There is no difference between respondents between different cadres towards use of web technologies.

- Respondents do not differ in opinion with regard to receiving support from administrators on application of web technology for library professionals work based on their years of experience.

- Different cadres of respondents do not differ with regard to receiving support from administrators on application of web technology for library professional work.

- There exists no significant difference between the surveyed library professionals' attitudes towards receiving support and recognition from library users with regard to implementation of web technology in their respective libraries.

- There is no significant difference between the respondents according to their cadres towards receiving support and recognition from library users in the implementation of web technology in their respective libraries.

- The surveyed respondents do not differ in opinion towards accessing scholarly information for academic and research purposes by their library users web technology.

- The surveyed respondents as to their designations do not differ in opinion towards accessing scholarly information for academic and research purposes by their library users suing web technology.

- Surveyed library professional felt that facing the copyright issues would not pose a challenge based on their experience towards using web technology.

- Library Professionals of various carders felt that the copyright issues will not pose a challenge for library professionals towards using web technology.

METHODOLOGY

The study is designed, developed, and carried out to find out the awareness and usage of web technologies among library professional of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh. Survey method is used to collect the data. Survey is a research technique of investigation by direct observation of a phenomena or collection of information through interview, questionnaire etc., In this study, structured questionnaire is used as a principal tool for the data collection. Questionnaire is a systematic compilation of questions regarding the particular research problem and to be answered by the respondents.

POPULATION AND FRAMEWORK OF STUDY

Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are among the developed states in terms of education. The quantum of graduate coming out every year from these two states is huge. As for as library professionals numbers from these two states are huge. Moreover, the researcher has great knowledge about these two states that is the reason the library professionals of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh states have been chosen for the study as population.

PILOT STUDY

A pilot study was conducted among the few library professionals from Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh to know the environment and to test the data collection tool prior to the study in order to improve the relevance and quality of the study. The study was found to be feasible and hence the research processed with the work.

CONSTRUCTION OF QUESTIONNAIRE

A questionnaire with 570 questions has been prepared to collect the Primary date for the present study in consultation with the guide and subject experts. On the basis of the pilot study, only 570 questions have been selected as final version to collect primary data.

Data Collection

The researcher has determined to collect data via online survey tool using a structured online questionnaire and mailing it through prominent e-mail and online discussion forums pertinent to library and information science professionals and to the email box of the library professionals. The structure of the questionnaire has been reorganized by grouping and differentiating the variables and the major factors to be studied based on their objectives. Accordingly, 582 numbers of open and close ended questions to collect primary data. The questionnaire has been designed technology fit into online web based tool called sawtooth survey software (http://www.sawtoothsoftware.com) with the help from Orange Analytics, which is circulated through forms and posted via electronic mails. The online questionnaire has been circulated to the following listed mail forums.

Sample Respondents

There are 750 library professionals ranging from chief librarians to library assistants were selected as respondents. Among them almost, all the respondents were permitted by the online survey tool to further precede the structured questionnaire to give their response. As only one hundred and sixty eight professionals (22.40%) have not been able to further proceed the questionnaire as they indicated that they were not aware on web technologies and its applications on LIS. The remaining respondents of 582
Have been considered as final and the same has chosen for the study.

Framework of Analysis

After the completion of the data collection, the SPSS dataset downloaded from survey tool and cleaned the data. After cleaning, the data is used for further analysis. From the data set, the required tables have been prepared. The tabulated data have been analyzed with suitable statistical techniques. Relevant statistical tools have been used to test the Hypotheses, The SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Scientists) (Version 21) software package have been used for the data manipulation.

STATISTICAL TOOLS USED

Since majority of the questions in the survey are captured in dichotomous way, the scope for statistical analysis are very limited. Hence for all the usage and awareness questions, the researchers used cross tabulation to identify the percentage between the independent variable. For the scaling questions the researcher applied ANOVA and Post-hoc test to find out the mean differences in each comparison groups. The statistical tools used in the present study includes

LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

- The findings of the study are applicable to the library professionals of the sates of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh
- Time and other constructions have restricted the inclusion of other states of India
- The survey represents opinion of the library professionals alone who have responded in the survey that belong to the states of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- The study has been made among the library professionals of Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh between the period January 2016 and December 2016.
- The generalization of findings of the study is subject to above conductions.

CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

The first chapter presents the introduction of the study. It includes definition of information, Web technologies and its important, relevance of web technologies in LIS at global level and India. At the end of the chapter, significance of the study, objectives, organization of chapters are presented.

The second chapter discusses the review of literature related to web technologies and library services.

The third chapter presents profile of the Karanataka and Andhra Pradesh states.

The fourth chapter presents research design of the study. In includes statement of problem, significance of the study, scope, objectives, hypotheses, methodology adapted, population and framework of study, pilot study, construction of questionnaire, data collection, sample respondents, framework of analysis, statistical tools used, limitation of the study.

The fifth chapter reports the detailed analysis and interpretations of the study.

The sixth chapter presents the findings, suggestion and conclusion of the present study and scope for further research.

The research report ends with a list of appendices and bibliographic references.